

BANGOR WHIG.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 20, 1839.
[Opposite page 11 of the "Daily Spy."
Washington, Jan. 21, 1839.

As soon as the journal was read.

Mr. Haynes rose, and moved that the House would go into Committee of the Whole, on the President's Message.

It was motion day.

Several members objected.

Mr. Haynes moved a suspension of the rule, in order to introduce this resolution.

Mr. Grubb of Ala. moved the yeas and nays.

Ordered.

The motion of Mr. Haynes, was rejected,

yeas 61, nays 74. (requiring two-thirds).

The House was then called, for the presentation of petitions, a part of which were, as follows:

Mr. Adams then proceeded to present some

thing rising of a hundred and fifty petitions on

these various topics.

During the whole of this discussion, which

lasted about two hours, the House was quite at-

tentive to "the old man eloquent" and his re-

marks were evidently received with great favor.

Nothing else of importance.

In Senate. Cumberland Road Bill sent to the

House.

Florida claims the rest of the day.

The Committee of Investigation has got to

work. Fisher and Owens with Ely Moore's de-

nominations as "friends to their party, and co-
operators with the whigs," by taking their places

thereon.

Mr. Adams, being about to present some pe-

titions, said he hoped the courtesy of the house

would be so far extended to him as to permit

him to make a statement to that body, in expla-

nation of his position upon certain subjects con-

cerning with the election of Mr. W. in the dis-

trict of Columbia, &c. That position was ma-

terially misunderstood in point of which he

would advert to the fact that he is daily receiv-

ing letters, some anonymous, others signed by

reputable men, urging him to withdraw his de-

mission, in case he persisted in presenting the

memorials on this subject, which his constituents

had placed in his hands for that purpose.

Objection being made,

Mr. Greenell moved a suspension of the rule,

in order to enable his colleague (Mr. Adams) to

offer the statement he had expressed desire to

make.

Mr. Grimm of S. C. demanded the yeas and

nays. Ordered.

Mr. Brownlow of Va. asked, if the gentleman

from Maryland, intended to predicate his

statement on a question of privilege?

Mr. Adams said he should hereafter do so, if

the courtesy of the house were not extended to

ward him, as now requested. It was an appeal

to their courtesy.

The House then suspended the rules, in order

to allow Mr. Adams to make his proposed state-

ment, by a vote of 117 yeas to 58 nays. (Requir-

ing two-thirds.)

And Mr. Adams went on.

He alluded to several letters of a threatening

character some of them challenging him to fight

a duel, some denouncing his life, some signed

by Mr. B. N. H. and obvious "quacks," as it

the modern fashion in this House to call such

forgeries and threats, and all of them abounding

in motions of privilege, had been sent

to him at the time of the house in raising such

questions.

He alluded to his inability in presenting the

various petitions.

He had, however, opposed to the different gage

petitions, which he had, from time to time,

presented to that House. But he was not now,

and never had been, prepared to vote in favor of

the prayer of such of those petitions as prayed

for the abolition of slavery in the District of Co-

lumbia. And if to-day a vote were to be taken

on that subject, he should vote in the negative.

He would, however, at the prayer, and this he was

willing and desirous that the Abolitionists of the

country should know.

He did not hold his life in any very serious

danger from these threats. It was easier to

threaten a man's life than to take it, especially

in the face of day. Perhaps these were threats

intended to frighten the object of them into

holding his tongue on that floor. But, said Mr.

A. whether they are so, or whether they are the

vainglory of a bully, I am not to be frightened

from my course. That I can face bullies, they

who now hear me have had an opportunity of

knowing full well, since I have held a baton on

this floor. And as to anonymous threats, they

have no terrors for me.

Mr. A. said he had received a very large

number of petitions, not alone from his own con-

stituents, but from all parts of the country, on

these subjects, petitions, strongly recommended

by letters, and by the respectable names there-

upon. It would be very easy for him to send

them all in a bunch to the Clerk's table, to lie

there, but he certainly thought it hardly decent

to hand up the petitions of the people.

He could not, and would not, do it. He certainly

intended no disrespect at all this, to the House.

He was unwilling to incur such odium, as a

member of that body. But he had simply done

his duty, as he understood it, and so he still

should act.

Mr. A. then recapitulated these incidents, in

his eagerness upon that floor, which went to prove

that it had been what he had described it.

Mr. Adams, among other things, justified him

if for having introduced the resolution of in-

quiry into the O'Connell and Stevenson duelling

correspondence. For this he had been threaten-

ed with a censure. Mr. A. adverted to the

fact that the President of the United States

had, during the rule of the Army

and Navy, during nothing more than what

Mr. A. had declared himself, in the letter

above, ready and desirous to do, and he so

did, in the State of Virginia, Mr. B. — a State,

and a State where which had been done

by that Mr. B. —

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